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SELA News

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SELA NEWS:

Plan now for attendance to the upcoming Joint Conference of SELA and the Georgia Council of Media Organizations (GaCOMO) October 3-5, 2012 in Macon, Georgia. Details can be found on SELA's website.

SOUTHERN BOOKS COMPETITION

Publishers in the Sunbelt region are invited to submit books published during the 2010 and 2011 calendar year to the Southeastern Library Association's Southern Books Competition. Hardbound books, paperbound books, and pamphlets may be entered. Children's books are excluded from the competition.

Publishers of winning books will receive a certificate of recognition. The winning books will be exhibited at the SELA conference in Macon, Georgia in October 2012, and available as a traveling exhibit prior to being archived with past winners. If a book is selected for an award, one additional copy is required for exhibit purposes. Books entered in the competition will not be returned. Winning titles are listed on the association's

web site at
<http://selaonline.org/about/southernbooks.htm>.

Awards are made on the basis of design, typography, materials, and quality of production. Content is considered only in relation to the manner in which the design and execution have contributed to conveying the spirit of the book to the reader. Judges have the freedom to classify the entries by production standards. Past awards categories have included Overall Excellence, Dust Jacket Design, Paperback Cover, Photos, Typographical Design, Book Illustration, and Special Award. Judges for the competition represent the library and publishing industry. To enter the competition, a publisher should submit one copy of the book, along with the completed entry blank and fee. The entry fee is \$25.00 for the first title entered, and \$15.00 for each additional title from the same press. Please make checks payable to the Southern Books Competition, SELA or use the new online payment option at the website above. Entry forms can also be found on the link above.

OTHER NEWS

You've likely heard about the [Edge Initiative](#), a collaborative effort to create benchmarks for public access technology, where benchmarks and resources combine to help libraries of all sizes drive investment and spark continuous improvement toward technology services. [TechSoup](#) is part of the effort, and is asking libraries to help us create resources that work for everyone.

To do that, thoughts are needed on how the benchmarks might work in your library. Monthly postings of a 2-question survey capture your thoughts. It's very important that libraries across the country weigh in on this project. Please take a moment to let us know what you think about this benchmark: <http://svy.mk/LCA7m3> (And register to win a prize!)

To keep updated on the Edge Initiative and to learn of resources like article, webinars, and donated software and hardware for libraries, please sign up for a monthly newsletter: <http://bit.ly/TSnews>

STATE NEWS

GEORGIA

The University of West Georgia's Irvine Sullivan Ingram Library recently completed an \$8 million renovation. The project was funded in 2008 with a special legislative appropriation honoring the late Georgia House Speaker, Thomas Bailey Murphy, 1924-2007, who left office with the distinction of being the longest continuously-serving state house speaker in U.S. history. Murphy donated his papers and office contents to the university in 2003. As part of the donor agreement, the institution agreed to replicate Murphy's iconic state capitol office on campus. The Murphy Office was dedicated on April 19, 2012, with over 700 in attendance, including every living former house speaker. Former governors Roy Barnes and Sonny Perdue, Georgia House

Speaker David Ralston, and Representative Calvin Smyre were on the program, and the Hon. Michael Murphy, Chief Justice of the Tallapoosa Circuit of Georgia spoke on behalf of the family. Steve Anthony, a West Georgia graduate who served as Chief Aide to Speaker Murphy from 1981 to 1995, introduced the speakers.



The Ingram Library renovation was pictured in the Design issue of *Library Journal*, and received coverage in the *Georgia Library Quarterly*. Hank Houser of Houser Walker Architecture of Atlanta was principal architect. Richard Meyer, retired dean of the library at Georgia Tech served as consultant. Associate Dean of Libraries Chris Huff acted as Project Advocate. Parrish Construction served as contractor. Kathy Dixson of Avient Museum Services worked with a team of university faculty, staff and graduate students to develop interpretive exhibits supporting the office installation. The exhibits are aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies. Some 1600 objects from Speaker Murphy's state capitol office were photographed, cataloged and placed in the replicated office setting. In addition to panel exhibits, the installation includes digital exhibits that provide information about the objects in the office, and highlight Tom Murphy's life and accomplishments. The Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections houses the papers and recorded interviews of numerous Georgia politicians, a collection begun in 1985 through Georgia's Political Heritage Program. A Center for Civic Engagement is being developed within the library to coordinate efforts of the university's